

Hamsplatter

December 1999

Volume 28 Issue 12

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President's Corner



The Ft. Wayne Hamfest was again a great event. There is always more than enough to entice you to pull out the wallet and empty its contents, and this hamfest was no exception.

My thanks to those who helped out at the club's tables during the hamfest. Special thanks to Carole Burke (WB9RUS) for the afghan she donated for the club to raffle. Also, special thanks to Steve Nardin (WB9ZIY) for coordinating the event and Wayne Bergamino (KB9OZH) for setup.

Our Christmas banquet arrives early on December 10. Entertainment will include the Jay Fox Band, Santa and Mrs. Claus and a lot of friends. Plan on attending. Please get your reservation into Carole Burke (637-1989) or Becky Stockslager (497-9486) right away.

After two consecutive years as the president of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club, I am pleased to pass the gavel on to Steve Nardin. My deepest gratitude to all those who helped make this experience something I will cherish in my memories. I have learned a lot from all of you. Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving in this fine club.

Our December Christmas Banquet is on Friday, December 10 at 6:30. Come join us for a fun filled evening.

73s,

Bill (N9WS)

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FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Fort Wayne Radio Club Christmas party is Friday, December 10, 1999, 6:30 P.M., Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. The menu will be ham and chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls and butter. The cost of the dinner is \$6 per adult and \$3 for children 10 and under. You are asked to please bring a covered dish to share or a dessert. There will be a voluntary gift exchange after dinner. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a small gift, about \$5, marked either for a man or a woman, and please put your name as donor so we

know who to thank for our gift. The man of the hour, Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive shortly after dinner and, among other things, will dispense gifts. We will also be entertained by Jay Fox. THERE WILL BE NO CALLING COMMITTEE. If you and your guest will be attending, please call Carole at 637-1989 or e-mail at wb9rus@cs.com or Becky at 497-9486 or email at n9ws@email.msn.com by Monday, December 6.

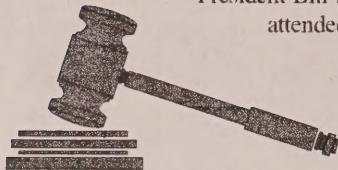


**Next Club Meeting - Friday, Dec. 10, 1999, 6:30 PM
Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, corner of Vance Ave. & Reed Rd.**

**Program:
Christmas Party**

November Meeting Minutes

The November meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club occurred on 19 November, 1999. It was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church and was hosted by President Bill Stockslager. There were about 30 attendees.



Bill reminded everyone to check their license and determine when it expires. It's easy to renew your license before it has expired, you can even do it via the web these days, so there is no excuse to let it get past you. Take a minute to see when it's due.

The minutes from the October meeting were read and there were no corrections.

Bob Streeter gave the Treasurer's report. As of 1 November 1999 the Club had assets of \$6220.66 in Savings/Checking and \$127.44 in cash. Bob noted that year-to-date the Club had an income of \$2641.75 and expenses of \$3089.31, or a net deficit for the year of \$447.56.

Bill Stockslager noted that Club dues for the CY00 club year should be submitted to Bob Streeter by January. Dues are the primary method used to finance this club. If you use the repeaters, enjoy the Hamsplatter or enjoy the other club sponsored activities such as the banquets, Field Day and auction, make sure that you re-up your membership and pay your dues.

... a committee consisting of representatives from the FWRC, ACARTS and the DX Association that will summarize Allen County Amateur's concerns relative to the draft code ...

Carole Burke reported that the Club Christmas banquet was on schedule for 10 December starting at 6:30pm at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. The club will provide chicken, ham, mashed potatoes and green beans from Famous Recipe plus soft liquid refreshments. Attendees are requested to bring in a covered dish or dessert and remember to bring the recipe for our Ham Cook-

book project. If interested in participating in the gift exchange, bring a modest gift with a note on it indicating who it is from and if it is for a man or a women. Jay Fox will be present for entertainment along with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus who will distribute the goodies at the gift exchange. The banquet cost will be \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for kids between 3 and 10 years of age. Contact either Carole Burke or Becky Stockslager if you plan to attend as there will be no calling campaign.

Bill Stockslager reported that the Code and Theory Class commenced 18 October at Calvary Temple Church on Washington Center Rd. starting with 25 students. After four sessions there are still 17 students remaining which is very encouraging. Bill is supporting the class with help from Tom Baker.

Bill Stockslager opened the floor for discussion on the new Allen County Development Code that is currently still in draft form and which, when enacted, will have an impact upon Amateur Radio towers and associated structures. Numerous attendees expressed their concern about the draft Development Code and all expressed an interest in involving the two other Amateur organizations in Allen County, i.e., the ACARTS and the DX Association. As a result of the discussion it was decided to:

1. Form a committee consisting of representatives from the FWRC, ACARTS and the DX Association that will summarize Allen County Amateur's concerns relative to the draft code and likewise develop proposed changes to the code that will protect the interests of Allen County Amateurs. FWRC and DX Association members willing to serve on the committee include John Goller, Frank Moore, Carl Rittenhouse, Carl Luetzelschwab, Tom Baker and Al Burke. Bill Stockslager will contact ACARTS to solicit participation from within their membership.
2. Engage an attorney to represent the consortium and represent us before the Building Commission if required. Initially contact will be made with ARRL affiliated lawyers who will likely provide initial advice pro-bono. As it's likely that additional legal representation will be required several steps were proposed.
3. Bob Streeter proposed that that legal expenses be financed by FWRC, ACARTS and the DX Association based upon their assets as of end of this year, and based upon a pro-rata accounting of the respective Club's financial status. To this end, Bob proposed that for its part, the FWRC authorize an expenditure towards legal expenses of up to one half its liquid assets.

Continued on page 3



**Fort
Wayne
Radio Club
January
Auction**

The rules are simple:

1) Come prepared to sell or buy.

Sellers must mark each item (or item group) to be auctioned with identification, and separate them into auction groups. It is suggested that one auction group should be one large value item, or several low value items. Each group to be auctioned must be identified. The auction will move more smoothly if you group your items before you bring them to the auction. If there is a minimum price you will accept, that should be clearly marked on the item. We have been printing an auction form in the HAMSPLATTER to help you organize your auction items into groups. Buyers should have adequate funds available (no credit extended). Please do not sell items privately during the auction, since this is a club fund raising activity.

All items must be removed from the meeting room at the end of the auction.

2) Sign out an auction ID number card if you are buying or selling.

Sellers are encouraged to mark their items with their auction ID number and a group number. For example, if your auction ID number is #23, please mark your items as #23-A, #23-B, #23-C, or some similar identification. You do not need an auction ID number if you are just watching the fun. Please return your ID number card when you leave the auction, since they can be used next year. In case you have a lucky number, you may sign out any ID number that is still available from the ID card stack when you sign in. The club has ID #1.

3) Keep track of your activities.

Sellers are advised to keep track of the buyers auction ID and amount of bid accepted for each item auctioned. Buyers are advised to keep track of their purchases (seller ID & Item group ID) and the amount of money they have spent. The auction sheets printed in the HAMSPLATTER can be used to help you keep track of your sales and purchases.

The treasurer will keep records of the auction activities, and all accounts must be settled with the club treasurer the night of the auction. The treasurer always welcomes assistance in keeping track of the auction activities!

4) Check out with the treasurer when you leave the auction or remove equipment.

Buyers must pay in full the night of the auction. Sellers will be paid by the treasurer following the auction of their items, less a 10% fee that goes to the club. Buyers may leave at any time after paying for their purchases and removing them. Sellers may leave at any time, but any unsold items must be removed.

5) Do not leave anything behind in the meeting room after the auction.

Please make sure that the buyers pick up the items they bought. Sellers must remove items that did not sell at the auction.

6) Spend money. Have fun. Pay your dues for the year 2000.

Bob W8ST, Treasurer

Note: Auction form is on page 7.

November Minutes – Cont'd. from page 2

4. Accordingly, Bob proposed a vote committing the FWRC to expend up to \$3,000.00 towards potential legal expenses commensurate with like commitments (relative to their financial capabilities) from ACARTS and the DX Association. The proposal was seconded by Wayne Bergamino and thus put to a vote. The subsequent vote was unanimously approved. Consequently, the FWRC has committed to expend up to \$3,000.00 towards legal expenses regarding the issue of the Allen County Development Code.

Becky Stockslager conducted the 50/50 raffle. The pot of \$23.00 was split between the Club and Jean Goller.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

AL BURKE, WB9SSE

Coast Guard Desire For Amateur Wireless Support During Y2K Event

INARRL BULLETIN 69-99

Subject: US Coast Guard Bulletin

From: Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL Headquarters

Purpose:

The U.S. Coast Guard would like the United States amateur radio community to assist us during the Y2K event (Dec 31, 1700Z - Jan 02, 2400Z) by accepting any reports destined for our National Response Center (NRC) and forwarding them to your respective State Emergency Operation Center (EOC). Contact with the State EOC may be made using RACES/ARES or other available methods. The State EOC is requested to pass these reports to the Coast Guard using one of the following methods.

EOC to NRC contact methods:

1. Telephone: 1 800 424-8802
2. Web site: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>
3. HF radio to FEMA's net control located at Mount Weather Emergency Assistance Center (MWEAC) Berryville, VA, to the Coast Guard CAMS (NMN or NMC) on the FEMA net-control frequencies of either 5211KHz or 10493KHz USB.

Background: The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) operates the National Response Center (NRC) which is the sole national point of contact for reporting all oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories. During normal operations the primary method of reporting incidents to the NRC is via their 1 800 telephone number: 1 800 424 8802.

The secondary reporting method is via the NRC Internet Web site <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>. In the event that a Y2K outage may cause localized Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) outages both of these reporting methods could be unavailable.

In order to prepare for possible PSTN and/or power outages that may result during the Y2K event, the NRC is seeking assistance from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), State EOC's and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide a link with the civil community. Assistance requested includes, supporting a wireless path for relay of any hazardous material spill and/or incidents to the NRC from an area where there is a PSTN outage. The HF path between FEMA and the USCG will be the FEMA HF radio calling frequencies shown above. Both USCG Communication Area Master Stations (CAMS) will be monitoring one of these frequencies, depending on time of day, and can be contacted on them should other landline methods of delivery be unavailable.

... amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner ...

The two USCG CAMS are:

U.S. Coast Guard Communication Area Master Station Chesapeake, VA. Call sign: NMN

U.S. Coast Guard Communication Area Master Station San Francisco, CA. Call sign: NMC

The minimum information which must be gathered and included in any report to the National Response Center is included in incident report form that may be found on the National Response Center's Web Site: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>.

Amateur Restructuring Details Possible By Year's End

from *The ARRL Letter* — Knowledgeable sources in Washington say the amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner at the FCC, and a Report and Order could be released before the end of 1999.

The Amateur Radio community has been awaiting license restructuring—known officially as the 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 97 (WT Docket 98-143)—for nearly one year now. While no one has mentioned a hard-and-fast date to wrap up the long-awaited proceeding, reports from several sources suggest that the R&O draft is in its final stages and could be complete within a month or so.

During a recent visit to top FCC officials in Washington, League officials pressed again for early action on the license restructuring rulemaking. They were assured that the issue was not stalled and that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was "working very actively" to move restructuring along.

Whatever its final form—and no one has hinted at that—license restructuring poses significant implications for Amateur Radio and its future direction and growth. On August 10, 1998, the FCC proposed to phase out the Novice and Technician Plus licenses, leaving just four amateur license classes in place—Technician, General, Advanced, and Extra. The Commission also asked the amateur community to express its opinions on Morse code requirements for licensing and testing, but offered no specific recommendations.

At its July 1998 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors—attempts to get the jump on restructuring—issued its own plan to restyle Amateur Radio. Among other details, the ARRL plan also calls for four license classes and for "refarming" Novice/Tech Plus subbands to provide additional spectrum for higher-class operators. Under the League plan, the Technician license remains unchanged, and the General becomes the entry-level ticket to HF operation. The ARRL proposed Morse code requirements of 5 WPM for General and 12 WPM for Advanced and Extra class.

The restructuring debate generated more than 2200 comments to the FCC, many of them from individual amateurs. Once the FCC approves the Report & Order, a Public Notice will be issued, and the actual R&O will be released probably within a few days.

FCC Denies League's Request for Stronger Federal Preemption Policy

QST de W1AW ARRL Bulletin 92 ARLB092 >From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT November 24, 1999 To all radio amateurs

The FCC has turned down a 1996 ARRL petition asking the Commission to go further in compelling state and local governments to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio and apply the least restrictive means to regulate amateur antennas and activity. However, in denying the petition, designated RM-8763, the FCC did offer some words that may be helpful to amateurs.

The requested rules changes would have expanded and clarified PRB-1, the Federal preemption of state and local regulation spelled out by the FCC in 1985 and since incorporated into the laws of several states.

Specifically, the League called on the FCC to amend Section 97.15(e) of its rules to say that any state or local antenna restrictions limiting ham radio antennas to heights below 70 feet would be "presumed unreasonable" unless the state or local authority could show its restrictions were necessary for health, safety or aesthetic reasons.

Further, the ARRL asked the FCC to clarify that local government's role in applying PRB-1 was to accommodate ham antennas rather than to balance local interests against Federal interests in "effective public service amateur communications." The League also wanted the FCC to acknowledge that it "has no less interest in the effective performance of an Amateur Radio Station" in an area regulated by deed restrictions, covenants, or condominium regulations than by zoning ordinances. It also asked the FCC to preempt overly burdensome conditions and excessive costs localities might require in connection with amateurs antenna installations.

In its denial, in an Order released November 19, the FCC said it would not be "prudent" or "appropriate" to set a height standard for amateur antennas and supporting structures "because of varying circumstances that may occur" for differing antenna configurations. "We believe that the policy enunciated in PRB-1 is sound," the FCC said, noting that PRB-1 does not specify a height limit. The Commission also said it did not want to mandate specific provisions that localities must include in zoning ordinances.

"We continue to believe that the standards the Commission set, that is 'reasonable accommodation' and 'minimum practicable regulation', have worked relatively well," the FCC said. The Commission applied that same philosophy to the imposition of fees, zoning laws and other conditions that localities might impose on amateur antenna installations.

The FCC also said its policy with respect to restrictive covenants already is clearly stated in PRB-1, which excludes

restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption." The FCC did say that it "strongly encourages associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio. But it drew the line at proposing specific rule changes to bring private restrictive covenants under the umbrella of PRB-1.

The part of the FCC's Order that may prove most helpful is the assertion that PRB-1 precisely stated the principle of "reasonable accommodation." Some courts have held that a local authority can merely balance its own interests against those of the amateur. PRB-1 states that local regulations involving placement, screening, or height of antennas based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations "must be crafted to accommodate reasonably amateur communications, and to represent the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose." In its Order, the FCC said that given PRB-1's explicit language, "it is clear that a 'balancing of interests' approach is not appropriate in this context."

The ARRL Executive Committee will review the Order at its December 4 meeting to determine what further action is appropriate.

VOA says "ooops!"

from *The ARRL Letter* — The Voice of America says a problem at one of its transmitters apparently was responsible for causing a spurious signal to appear in the top end of the 20-meter amateur phone band. Several hams had reported hearing a broadcast signal on 14.340 MHz in recent weeks, a second harmonic of the 7.170 fundamental. Responding to one of those who complained directly, Dan Ferguson, K4VOA, thanked the listener and said the problem apparently was related to a faulty harmonic filter at a VOA transmitter in the Philippines. Ferguson said he contacted the station prior to its October 26 broadcast, and the station has switched to an alternate transmitter until repairs can be made.—thanks to Martin Potter, VE3OAT

Thank You

The 1999 hamfest was another success because so many of you volunteered to staff the many positions required. I want to thank each of you for making me look like I knew what I was doing.

A very big thanks goes to the various managers — without you there would be no hamfest.

To Doug Jones and Don Gagnon — people like you are very rare; thanks so much.

Bob Maughmer
KB9OYX

Dec. ARRL VE Exam Schedule



04-Dec-1999 Sponsor: BLOOMINGTON ARC INC Time: 11:30AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: MILLARD H QUALLS (812)332-0074 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: FIRST BAPTIST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - LIBRARY 2420 E 3RD ST BLOOMINGTON, IN 47401	Contact: ROBERT J HARKER (812)235-9374 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: RED CROSS BLDG - BASEMENT 700 S 3RD ST US HWY 41 TERRE HAUTE, IN 47807	KOKOMO, IN 46902
04-Dec-1999 Sponsor: TRI STATE ARS Time: 09:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: TERRY L BROOKS (812)421-9135 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS 111 E DIAMOND AVE EVANSVILLE, IN 47711	09-Dec-1999 Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC Time: 07:00PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: DAVID W EVANS (219)533-4563 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER HOMAN ACTIVITIES CENTER 1721 GREENCROFT BLVD GOSHEN, IN 46526	08-Jan-2000 Sponsor: PORTER COUNTY ARC Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: WILLIAM PETERSON (219)762-2887 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 1401 W PORTER AVE CHESTERTON, IN 46304
04-Dec-1999 Sponsor: RED CROSS ARC Time: (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: GALE A WUOLLET (317)849-8449 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS 441 E 10TH ST INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46202	11-Dec-1999 Sponsor: PORTER COUNTY ARC Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: WILLIAM PETERSON (219)762-2887 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 1401 W PORTER AVE CHESTERTON, IN 46304	29-Jan-2000 Sponsor: ANDERSON RC & MADISON CNTY ARC Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: EVERETT G RILEY (765)754-7167 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: MADISON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY HEADQUARTERS 727 W 600 N OLD SCHOOL BLDG ANDERSON/ALEXANDRIA, IN 46001
04-Dec-1999 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED Time: 09:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: PEGGY COULTER (765)288-0481 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: CIVIL DEFENSE BUILDING SW CORNER STATE RD 3 & 100 N NEW CASTLE, IN 47362	17-Dec-1999 Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARC Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: CHARLES SUFANA (219)923-8308 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2201 AZALEA DR HIGHLAND, IN 46322	29-Jan-2000 Sponsor: W5YI-VEC — WHITLEY COUNTY ARC Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: HENRY R MACKEY (219)244-7735 VEC: W5YI VEC Location: CALL FOR SITE LOCATION COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725
05-Dec-1999 Sponsor: HANCOCK ARC Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: THOMAS J DONALDSON (317)326-3168 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: GREENFIELD HAMFEST GREENFIELD HS PAVILION 810 N BROADWAY ST TOMD@FREEWWWEB.COM GREENFIELD, IN 46140	18-Dec-1999 Sponsor: MICHIGAN CITY ARC Time: 08:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: ROBERT A LYLES (219)874-3386 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: RED CROSS CHAPTERHOUSE 232 E 8TH ST MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360	12-Feb-2000 Sponsor: PORTER COUNTY ARC Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: WILLIAM PETERSON (219)762-2887 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 1401 W PORTER AVE CHESTERTON, IN 46304
05-Dec-1999 Sponsor: WABASH VALLEY ARA Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)	21-Dec-1999 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: ESPIE P MITCHELL (765)457-6493 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: UAW LOCAL 1166 2761 N 50 EAST RD	26-Feb-2000 Sponsor: W5YI Time: (No walk-ins) Contact: G CURTIS VAN DE WATER (219)858-2474 VEC: W5YI VEC Location: CAN ALSO CALL 219-267-5400 FOR TEST LOCATION & TIME WARSAW, IN 46580

Fort Wayne Radio Club January Equipment Auction

Auction Procedure:

- 1) Sign in for an auction participant number. A participant number is required for either buying or selling. If you are just watching, no participant number is needed.
 - 2) If you are selling, please provide the treasurer with this form filled out with a list of the items (or group of items) that you are selling, one line per item/group to be auctioned. You may also use a copy of this record form to keep track of your purchases and sales. Remember to mark the item with a minimum bid if there is one, otherwise it will be auctioned for whatever it brings as bids.
 - 3) Buyers should add up the total of their purchases, and pay that amount to the treasurer. Please pay before removing your purchases. All purchases must be removed on the night of the auction. Sellers should add up the total of their sales, deduct 10% (multiply by 0.1 and subtract from the total), and collect that amount from the treasurer. Separate price columns are provided in case you are both buying and selling.

Buyer # **(Buy Price)** **Item Description** **Seller #** **(Sell Price)**

Amount due FWRC	Total Less 10% Due from FWRC
	<hr/> <hr/>



For Sale

I have (3) Radio Shack HTX 202 2 meter HTT's for sale \$100.00 each. Tom Trowbridge, WB9IHR, 693-2356

NOTE: For Sale & Wanted items will be listed for 2 months only unless the ad is resubmitted. If you sell an item the first month, please contact the editor so the item can be removed. Thank you.

FCC Letter Includes Operating Reminders For Nets

from *The ARRL Letter* – FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth recently took advantage of an enforcement-related letter to issue some operating reminders for nets.

On November 3, Hollingsworth wrote Alan E. Strauss, WA4JTK, of Carol City, Florida, to follow up on earlier complaints about the “14.247 DX Group,” for which Strauss serves as net control. The FCC had contacted Strauss earlier this year regarding complaints that the 14.247 DX Group monopolized that frequency and interfered with ongoing amateur communications. The November 3 letter included correspondence the FCC received on August 4 that Hollingsworth said conflicts with Strauss’s explanation of interference alleged to have occurred to the net in July. Hollingsworth said the case will remain open, and the FCC will continue to monitor net operations.

Hollingsworth used the occasion of the Strauss letter to again point out that amateur frequencies are shared, and no net has a greater right than any other ham to a given frequency and cannot take over a frequency unless it is voluntarily relinquished.

If the frequency is not relinquished, Hollingsworth said, amateurs must exercise “good Amateur practice” in choosing another frequency that does not disrupt existing communications. “A net ‘taking over’ a frequency from existing legitimate communications or deliberately operating disruptively close to existing legitimate communications will be considered to be engaging in deliberate interference,” he wrote.

Hollingsworth also told Strauss that the practice of “identifying only by the last two letters of an Amateur call sign is a violation of Part 97” of the FCC rules and that such

practice “must not be condoned by your group.” Some amateurs had construed the statement—widely reported elsewhere—as a tightening of FCC station identification enforcement policy. Hollingsworth says that’s not the case.

“All we said was that if only the last two letters are given, it doesn’t meet Part 97,” he said. He pointed out that if a calling station using an abbreviated ID is never acknowledged and given a chance to give a complete call sign, a legal ID would be lacking for that communication. To be strictly legal, stations using a suffix-letter ID always must identify within the first 10 minutes of the communication (and each 10 minutes thereafter) with a complete call sign. Hollingsworth restated the requirements in a follow-up letter to Strauss on November 16.

Hollingsworth this week also reminded net control stations not to encourage rule violations by requiring check-ins to use two-letter IDs without allowing a legal ID at some point within the time limits of the rules.

Satellites, Power Grid Face Potential Solar Threat

from *The ARRL Letter* – Forget Y2K! Watch out for Ol’ Sol! Increased solar activity due to the current sunspot cycle is expected to affect satellites on which US telecommunications customers depend, says National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Director D. James Baker. The solar maximum also could impact US power grids. Starting next year, space storms, radiation showers and effects on power grids are all expected during the upcoming maximum, which is expected to last about three years. NOAA officials said the storms alter the Earth’s magnetic field and may send strong enough electrical charges that would overwhelm vulnerable power grids. The last cycle of geomagnetic storms occurred in the late 1980s and resulted in blackouts in Montreal, England and Scandinavia and damaged four Navy satellites. This round of activity is expected to have more dire consequences, Baker says, because customers are much more dependent now on satellite technology. In addition, there are many more satellites than there were a decade ago. Meanwhile, Amateur Radio operators have been looking forward to the solar maximum hoping for improved HF conditions and enhanced propagation on VHF and even UHF.—from press reports and The Hudson Loop

Spectrum Protection Act update

from *The ARRL Letter* – ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, reports that the Spectrum Protection Act, HR 783, now has 126 co-sponsors. Efforts are under way to line up a Senate companion bill for introduction after the first of the year.

Membership Data: (Give this form to the treasurer at any FWRC meeting or mail to the address below)

Name _____ Call _____ Class: N T G A AE

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK - Provided at no cost to club members, this handbook provides a full set of information about present and past club activities, events, and functions. The handbook is available in a clear cover binder, and is upgradeable by easy insertion of new pages into the binder.

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

The FWRC offers electronic information distribution. Are you interested in receiving information from the club by E-Mail? Y N

Shall we list your address and phone number in the membership roster Y N?

Are you presently an ARRL member Y N?

Membership Term: (Jan - Dec) (Jul - Dec)

Family Membership: \$21.00/yr \$10.50/yr immediate family (list all callsigns)

Regular Membership: \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr licensed member

Student Membership: \$6.00/yr \$3.00/yr full time student

Associate Membership: \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr unlicensed member

Your Check Number _____ please pay by check. It's easier for both of us.

Mail to: The Fort Wayne Radio Club
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM) on 146.88

Auburn: meets Mon, Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 2300 UTC (6 PM) on 147.015+

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 0200 UTC (9 PM) on 147.150

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice: 146.76/16
146.94/34
444.875/449.875
ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, via e-mail WB9UZA at aol.com. Please put "for Hamsplatter" in the Subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

Deadline for the January issue: 1/7/00.
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!

Miscellaneous Nets

Huntington ARES: Sat/Tues at 0100 UTC (8 PM) on 146.685

Portside: 3rd Wednesday at 0030 UTC (7:30 PM) on 444.300

Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 0015 UTC (7:15 PM) on 145.270 - (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 0045 UTC (7:45 PM) on 444.550+. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

Sloppy Code Net: Sundays at 0200 UTC (9 PM) on 40M (7.1405 MHz). This CW net's purpose is to build confidence and help increase code speed. The speed is generally 1-10 WPM. If you want to copy only contact Henry, KA9ZNN at 749-8968 for details.

Be sure to visit the Fort Wayne Radio Club on the Internet: <http://home1.gte.net/n9iww2/fwrc/>

THE FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 15127
FORT WAYNE, IN 46885



TO:

